P.O. Box 7 23 Mohawk Road Blairsden, CA 96103 530-836-2575 TDD: 530-534-7984 Fax: 530-836-0493

File Code:

1950

Date:

November 6, 2017

Dear Interested Party,

The Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest, in partnership with State of California Department of Water Resources (CA-DWR), is beginning the environmental analysis process for the Thompson Meadow Restoration Project. The primary goals of the project are restoration of historic floodplain function and restoration of the historic meadow water table elevation. In development and preparation of this project, we are seeking the participation of interested persons, State and local Governments, and Native American tribes.

The proposed project area is located approximately 11 air miles north of Portola, CA in Township 25N Range 13E Sections 25 and 36. The 40-acre project area is located entirely on National Forest System lands. The proposed action is to treat approximately 0.6 mile of degraded channel on Thompson Creek, a tributary to McReynolds Creek in the Red Clover Creek watershed. A variety of treatment types would be employed to remove the channel from the gully bottom and restore it back to the surface of the meadow in order to restore the function of the meadow floodplain. These treatments include complete fill of the incised channel, rock inchannel "raised riffle" structures, and partial fill of the incised channel (commonly known as "pond and plug").

In an effort to reduce paper use, the Forest Service will emphasize electronic correspondence throughout the planning of this project. A more detailed description of the proposed project is available online through the Plumas National Forest website at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52760.

If you would like a hardcopy of the proposed action document, please contact Joe Hoffman, Project Leader, via one of the methods listed below.

The environmental analysis will be compliant with both the federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Beckwourth District Ranger will be the official responsible for selecting the treatment alternative. CA-DWR will act as the lead agency for the CEQA process.

We are seeking comments on the merits of the proposed action, as well as comments that address errors, misinformation, or information that has been omitted. Public questions and comments regarding this proposal are an integral part of this environmental analysis process. Comments will be used to identify issues and develop potential alternatives to the proposed action. Specific written comments are most useful when they are within the scope of the proposed action, have a





direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider.

It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner. Although comments will be accepted throughout any phase of this project, to establish objection eligibility, this designated comment period for the proposed action is between November 8, 2017 and December 8, 2017.

We encourage you to submit written comments electronically via email at: <u>comments-pacificsouthwest-plumas-beckwourth@fs.fed.us</u>. Comments submitted electronically must be in acceptable plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Word (.doc) formats. Please indicate the name "Thompson Meadow Restoration Project" in the subject line of your email.

Hard copy comments may be:

- Mailed to Beckwourth District Ranger, Matthew Jedra c/o Joe Hoffman, Plumas National Forest Supervisor's Office, 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971.
- Hand delivered between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays to 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971, or
- Faxed to (530) 283-7746.

Objection Regulations

The proposed project is subject to the pre-decisional review (or objection) regulations of 36 CFR §218 Subparts A and B. This is a supplemental notice being provided to announce a designated opportunity to comment associated with the project scoping period. This is not the legal notice associated with the comment period specified in 36 CFR 218.24.

Only those who submit timely and specific written comments (defined by 36 CFR 218.1) during a designated public comment period established by the responsible official will have eligibility to file an objection (36 CFR §218.5). For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments must either sign the comment or verify identity upon request. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements in §218.25(a) (3).

For additional information concerning this project, contact Joe Hoffman, Project Leader, at 530-283-7868 or jahoffman@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW JEDRA

District Ranger

Enclosure: Project Vicinity Map